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## INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Germany (Russian Zone)

SUBJECT Police System in Brandenburg

CD NO.

DATE DISTR. 17 AUG 49

NO. OF PAGES 3

NO. OF ENCLS.  
(LISTED BELOW)

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SUPPLEMENT TO  
REPORT NO.FD  
636

1. The police in Land Brandenburg consists of:
  - a. The Landespolizei
  - b. Special police units under the direct control of the German Administration of the Interior.
2. The Landespolizei, headed by Ministerialdirektor and Police General Staimer, is sub-divided into the following branches:
  - a. The Schutzpolizei (uniformed constabulary)
  - b. The Verwaltungspolizei (administrative police)
  - c. The Kriminalpolizei (criminal police)
3. The uniformed constabulary
4. The administrative police branch is commanded by Polizeirat Lebeck. It is sub-divided into trade police, traffic police, and strictly administrative police. It is notable that the prosecution of violations of the price laws has been entrusted to the administrative police. In order to meet its expenses the administrative police has to raise a fixed quota of fines, a corresponding amount being automatically deducted from its budgetary allocations. As an example, the city of Potsdam has to impose monthly fines amounting to at least 90,000 Deutsche Mark in order to sustain itself.
5. The Criminal Police is headed by Oberpolizeirat Krauthausen. His deputy is Polizeirat Schwercke. Until recently it comprised the following Kommissariate: K 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5; K 1 charged with the investigation of capital crimes, K 2 theft, K 3 economic crimes, K 4 other crimes, and K 5 political cases. A recent re-organization provided for Kommissariate a, b, c, d, with K 5

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6. K 5 was activated toward the end of 1945 by the Landespolizei. Its main task was the investigation of cases concerning de-nazification. Directive 201 concerning de-nazification had discharged certain special assignments from the Minister of the Interior. The political control measures, surveillance of theaters, etc. In the course of 1948/49 political cases continued to increase. It was decided in March 1949 to segregate all personnel of K 5 from Directive 201 and transfer them to a special office designated "Dienst der Landespolizei".
7. The latest development is that K 5's importance in the scope of its responsibilities has grown to a point where it has become necessary to take it out from under the control of the criminal police. Allegedly K 5 has been placed under the direct control of the chief of the Land police and is currently known by the designation "operative Gruppe". \* The Land police still handles administrative matters (personnel, etc.) of K 5. The table of organization of K 5 is approximately 280.
8. K 5 does not avail itself of the services of informants or agents. It gets its information mostly from functionaries and members of the SED. It keeps in touch with shopkeepers, trade unions and maintains information on all government offices and important business enterprises through informants. It operates independently, its cooperation with the Landespolizei rollamt is of a most intimate nature. K 5 is headed by Lt. Col. K. K. Kuchetsov.
9. All persons arrested by K 5 are held in a so-called Polizeigefängnis II which, since it does not fall within the purview of the judiciary, fails to afford its inmates the protection of the law against arbitrary arrest. This police prison had been installed at the beginning of 1946 to serve as a detention place for all persons taken into custody without a proper arrest warrant. Though it was ostensibly confined to persons arrested for political crimes, the argument that all so-called economic offenses also constituted political crimes led to an increasing incidence of detention on general grounds of undesirability. For a short period the public prosecutor of Potsdam was granted limited rights of supervision. At the present time, however, the "NKVD" asserts a determined opposition of Lt. Col. K. K. Kuchetsov, Internal Affairs, SMA Brandenburg, to whom K 5 henceforth denied access to the records of Polizeigefängnis II.
10. Notable exploits of K 5 were Operation "Brandenburg", the deportation of all Jewish residents in Brandenburg, the execution of news dealers suspected of selling anti-Soviet literature during the 1949 Volkskongress election, the large-scale arrest of persons caught in distribution of anti-Soviet posters or opposing the SED party.
11. K 5 is headed by Polizeirat (fmu) [REDACTED] He has been in time communist who came up from the working class. His department is approximately 40 years. His department is headed by Polizeirat (fmu) Bröcker. He was under investigation for counterrevolutionary activities committed in an official capacity. Presumably he was a member of the "NKVD", charges were never actively pursued. His files in the case disappeared. One of the more important operatives of K 5 is one (fmu) Schindelmeister.

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Document No. 100-00000000  
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CLASSIFICATION/CONTROL - CONFIDENTIAL  
Class. CHANNEL TO: TS S C  
DIA (KGB), 1 APR 78  
Auth. DIA (KGB) APPROVED For Release 2001/03/22 : CIA-RDP82-00457R003000630004-9  
Date May 26 By: 03

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Next Review Date: 2008

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\* [REDACTED] Comment: Whether the designation "operative Gruppe" is an official one remains open to doubt. K 5 is known to hide its activities behind a number of innocuous sounding designations and most likely this is one of them, also meant to connote its close affinity with what is popularly known as "NKVD".

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\*\* [REDACTED] Washington Segment  
Comment: Fatov was identified in 1948 as a major, Chief of Denazification Subsection, OVD Brandenburg. He later assumed investigation duties and was known to be an agent recruiting officer for OVD Brandenburg.

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